

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/692,107

Applicant(s)

GHISLAIN CONSTANT, MICHEL
MARGUERITE WA

Examiner

Adrienne C. Johnstone

Art Unit

1733

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed 23 October 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 102303
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 031705
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Adrienne C. Johnstone
Primary Examiner
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Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Richard O'Planick on March 17, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims

claim 1 line 5, to correct a typographical error, "a width W" has been changed to -- having a width w -- (specification paragraph 0027);

claim 3, at the end the improper comma has been changed to a period;

the unnumbered claim after claim 3 has been renumbered as claim 4;

claim 4 has been renumbered as claim 5;

claim 5 line 2, to define M as in claim 4, after "M," has been inserted -- the tire perimeter measured at the tire centerline, -- .

In the abstract

The abstract has been rewritten as set forth below in order to limit the abstract to the required 150 words or less.

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Abstract

A tire [10] has an outer tread and an inner casing with] has a belt structure [16, 17], the belt structure includes an overlay ply [18, 30, 60] reinforced by parallel cords oriented circumferentially [having a width W between lateral outermost edges], the overlay ply [18, 30, 60] having a pattern of cuts [22] within discrete segments [19]. Each segment [19] has a repeated pattern of cuts [22] arranged in six rows R_1 - R_6 . Each cut [22] is spaced at least 100 mm from a cut in an adjacent row and is laterally offset from an adjacent cut by at least 3 mm, this distance being smaller than the cut width to ensure that each overlay cord is cut. The overlay cord lengths within the respective rows is of any length [L] in the range of 200 to 500 mm. The cut pitch within the respective rows is of any percentage [P] of the tire circumference in the range of 8 to 30%. The circumferential offset between two adjacent segments [19] is of any percentage [O] of the tire circumference in the range of 0.5 to 2%. [The cut pattern of the preferred embodiment of the invention has the cut pattern arranged in the six rows of 0, 53, 21, 89, 34, and 72 percent respectively of the cut pitch P of the cord relative to row R_1 and repeated within each row with the cut length P, wherein the cut pitch percentage P is 20.9%. The circumferential offset O between two adjacent segments 19, expressed in percentage of M, is 1.16%. The overlay cord length L is defined by $L=P*M$ where M is the tire perimeter measured at the tire centerline in millimeter.]

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Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Marker et al. (3,570,574), Caretta (3,990,493), Davisson (4,791,973), Cluzel (5,738,740), Lescoffit (5,783,003), Billieres (5,935,354), Colom (6,082,425), Colom (6,082,426), Cluzel (6,367,527 B1), Cluzel (6,401,778 B1), Cluzel (6,612,353 B2), Allen et al. (6,622,764 B2), Losey et al. (6,668,889 B1), West German Patent Application 1 091 890, Japanese Patent Applications 62-152834 A, 62-231802 A, 62-273837 A, 63-106104 A, 5-238207 A, and 2001-39114 A, and the remaining prior art of record fail to disclose or suggest applicants's tire, including the belt ply reinforced by parallel cords oriented circumferentially and having the particular repeated pattern of cuts (particular cut spacing of at least 100 mm, lateral offset of at least 3 mm and smaller than the cut width, cord lengths of 200 mm to 500 mm, cut pitch 8% to 30% of the tire circumference, and circumferential offset 0.5% to 2% of the tire circumference) within the particular discrete segments, in the claimed environment.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adrienne C. Johnstone whose telephone number is (571)272-1218. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:30AM-7:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Blaine Copenheaver can be reached on (571)272-1156. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

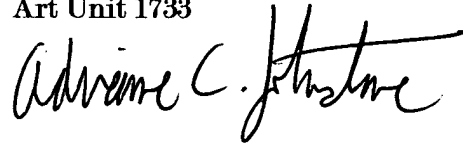
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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Adrienne Johnstone

March 17, 2005

Adrienne C. Johnstone
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1733

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adrienne C. Johnstone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'A' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.